



## ***Cotton/Soybean Insect Newsletter***

**Volume 4, Issue #17**

**Edisto Research & Education Center in Blackville, SC**

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### **Last Newsletter for 2009**

This will be the last issue of the Cotton/Soybean Insect Newsletter for 2009. Thank you for your support and contributions! If you have any suggestions on how I might improve the newsletter, please let me know.

### **Pest Patrol Hotline**

A summary of current problems with insects is available this season via a toll-free hotline. Simply call the free number **(877) 285-8525** and select the messages you would like to hear. I will update the short message weekly for at least as long as the newsletter runs. The hotline is sponsored by Syngenta.

### **Cotton Situation**

As of 7 September 2009, the USDA NASS South Carolina Statistical Office had our progress at 99% of the bolls set, very close to where we were last year at 100% and the 5-yr average of 98%. About 30% of bolls have opened, ahead of where we were last year at 17% and about equal to the 5-yr average of 31%. Conditions were described as 1% excellent, 52% good, 45% fair, 2% poor, and 0% very poor for the crop. These are observed/perceived state-wide averages.

### **Soybean Situation**

As of 7 September 2009, the USDA NASS South Carolina Statistical Office had our progress at about 98% bloomed, equal to last year and the 5-yr average of 98%. About 90% of pods are set, ahead of where we were last year at 86% and for the 5-yr average of 84%. About 5% of the crop has turned color, behind that observed last year (7%) and the 5-yr average (10%). About 1% of the leaves have dropped. Conditions were described as 7% excellent, 60% good, 32% fair, 1% poor, and 0% very poor. These are observed/perceived state-wide averages. **ALTHOUGH THIS IS THE LAST COTTON/SOYBEAN INSECT NEWSLETTER, I WILL SEND OUT ANY IMPORTANT INFORMATION I MIGHT RECEIVE CONCERNING SOYBEAN INSECTS WITHIN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS TO FINISH THAT CROP.**

### **News from Above the Lakes**

No news to report this week. Reports will resume next season.

### **News from Below the Lakes**

As I reported last week, Dan Robinson and I helped Tommy Walker, county agent covering Allendale, Hampton, and Jasper Counties, count a demonstration test on fall armyworms (FAW) in non-Bt and Bollgard (DP555) cotton on 31 August. Numbers of FAW were the highest I had ever seen in cotton. I incorrectly reported the number of row feet counted at 36' when we actually sampled only 18', so the numbers were even higher than first reported. Again, the product combinations were sprayed on portions of each variety, and

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untreated controls were left for comparison. One product combination was Brigade (gal/30 acre) + Diamond (9 oz/acre), and the other product was a premix called Voliam xpress (10 oz/acre). Both product combinations reduced FAW significantly by 31 August. We counted the DP555 portion of this test again on Monday (7 Sept), and the table below is appended with the new data. Although the UTC numbers were reduced (but still exceeding threshold 4-5 times), the numbers in both product combinations were almost completely gone. I hope that we never see FAW like this again. According to my sources, the bifenthrin + Diamond combination will cost around \$14/acre, and the Voliam Xpress will cost about twice that at the rates we tested, not including application costs.

**Fall armyworm (FAW) demonstration in Hampton County, SC (August/September 2009).**

Variety/Product	Small FAW/ 18 rowft	Large FAW/ 18 rowft	Total FAW/ 18 rowft	% Control
Bt/UTC (31 Aug)	204	67	271	-
Bt/Voliam Xpress (4DAT)	11	10	21	92%
Bt/Brigade+Diamond (5.5DAT)	66	6	72	74%
Non-Bt/UTC	327	31	358	-
Non-Bt/Voliam Xpress (4DAT)	24	13	37	90%
Bt/UTC (7 Sept)	17	40	57	-
Bt/Voliam Xpress (11DAT)	0	3	3	95%
Bt/Brigade+Diamond (12.5DAT)	4	1	5	91%
Bt/Voliam Xpress (11DAT) fb Diamond at 14 oz/acre (5DAT)	0	0	0	100%

**Bollworm & Tobacco Budworm**

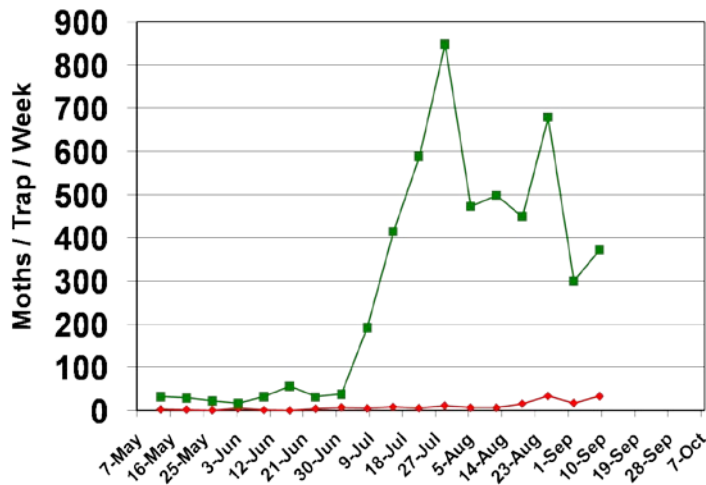


Captures of bollworm (BW) and tobacco budworm (TBW) moths in pheromone traps at EREC this season and last season are presented. The scales on the charts are the same to illustrate where we are compared with last year. We trapped 3,727 BW moths in 10 traps this past week to give us about 370/trap/wk. We averaged about 34 TBW moths per trap this past week. I would expect that our trap numbers will continue to decline, especially if the cooler nights continue. I would monitor for BW in soybeans a little longer.

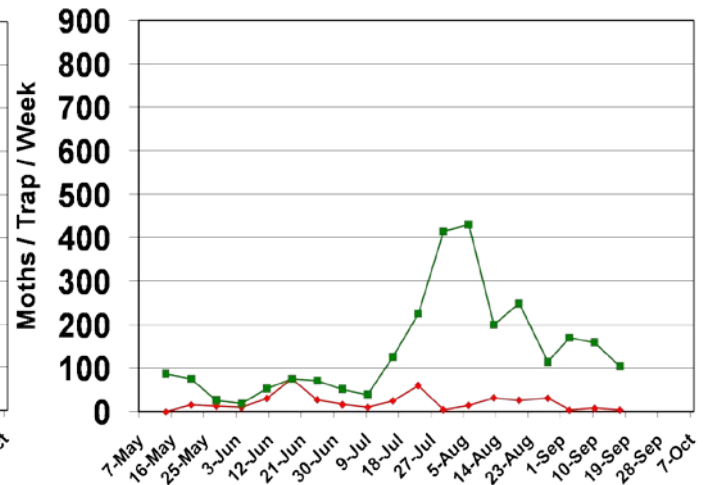




Pheromone Trap Capture SC - 2009



Pheromone Trap Capture SC - 2008



### Need More Information?

Log on to the following webpage to view important recommendations for cotton and soybean insect management, data, and historical cotton insect newsletters:

<http://www.clemson.edu/extension/rowcrops/>

Sincerely,

Jeremy K. Greene, Ph.D.

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